

³⁴
~~37~~ (new) The method of Claim ³⁵~~36~~ wherein the host cell constitutively expresses the polymerase proteins.

³⁷
~~38~~ (new) A chimeric virus rescued from the method of Claim ³⁵~~36~~.

C17
cont.
³⁸
~~39~~ (new) A method for producing a chimeric negative strand RNA virus, comprising culturing a host cell transfected with plasmid DNAs containing a heterologous nucleotide sequence operatively linked to a binding site specific for an RNA-directed RNA polymerase of a negative strand RNA virus, and with plasmid DNAs containing nucleotide sequences which encode the RNA polymerase proteins, and recovering the chimeric virus from culture.

³⁹
~~40~~ (new) The method of Claim ³⁸~~39~~ wherein the chimeric virus is influenza.

⁴⁰
~~41~~ (new) The method of Claim ³⁹~~40~~ wherein the heterologous RNA segment is derived from another strain of influenza.

⁴¹
~~42~~ (new) A chimeric virus rescued from the method of Claim ³⁹~~40~~.

⁴²
~~43~~ (new) A method for producing a chimeric influenza virus comprising culturing a host cell transfected with plasmid cDNAs containing the nucleotide sequences encoding eight genomic segments from different strains of influenza virus, each of the segments comprising the reverse complement of an mRNA coding sequence for an RNA-directed RNA polymerase of a negative strand virus, wherein the host cell expresses the RNA polymerase proteins, and recovering the chimeric virus from culture.